(iv) The process for sanctioning pension to an employee retiring on superannuation commences two years ahead of his date of retirement. Instructions have been issued in January, 1987 making Heads of Departments/Offices responsible for ensuring compliance with Government orders and to issue Pension Panment Order and Gratuity Payment Order,—final or provisional,—by the date of retirement in all cases of retirement on superannuation. These orders do not apply to cases of voluntary retirement, because in these cases the concerned offices do not get sufficient advance opportunity for processing the pension cases.

(v) The above mentioned position applies to all Central Government offices the employees of which come within the purview of the Central Civil Services (Pension) Rules, 1972. Railway employees and Armed Forces personnel are governed by separate sets of rules administered by the Ministry of Railways and the Ministry of Defence respectively.

Increasing the allocation of sugar and rice to consumers

630. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to increase the allocation of sugar and rice for distribution to consumers through Fair Price Shops;

(b) if so, give details thereof with effective date of such increase;

(c) whether it is also a fact that this increase in allocation has increased the quota of food card holders of Delhi for these items; and

(d) if so, give details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (d) The Central Government has make an *adhoc* increase in the allocation of levy sugar to State Governments/U.T. Administrations w.e.f. August, 1991 till December, 1991. After December, 1991 the position will be reviewed. The allocation of rice to States/U.Ts. has been increased for August, 1991 keeping in view the lean season.

The increase in allocation is meant to increase the availability of items for Public Distribution System (PDS) and would not necessarily increase the scale of ration to card holders in Delhi. The State Governments and U.T. Administrations decide the entitlement and scale of essential commodities supplied under PDS.

Welfare of people living in rural areas

631. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have prepared several programmes for welfare of people living in rural areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these programmes have been implemented in rural areas of U.P.;

(d) if so, the details thereof district-wise, with amount spent so far;

(e) whether Government have fixed any target for implementation of these programmes; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UTTAMBHAI H. PATEL): (a) to (c) For the welfare of the people in rural areas of the country including U.P., Government have been implementing a series of rural development programmes which mainly focus on eradication of poverty, creation of employment opportunities, provision of drinking water and other basic amenities.

(d) Government monitor the performance of various rural development programmes only at State level. District-wise amount spent under various programmes are monitored by the respective State Governments.